

MEMORANDUM

TO: Agency and Authority Leadership

FROM: Kathryn Garcia, Director of State Operations

SUBJECT: Use of State Property and Personnel for Motion Picture/TV and Related Production Activities

DATE: December 6, 2023

The motion picture, television and related production industries are important contributors to New York State's economic health, creating over 65,000 jobs annually, significantly stimulating our local and regional economies. Such productions are key economic drivers and a source of good-paying union jobs for New Yorkers. Empire State Development and the Governor's Office of Motion Picture and Television Development (MPTV) are responsible for attracting and increasing productions through various means including identifying and securing locations throughout the State for production use.

More than \$1 billion in economic activity and thousands of jobs were lost to the state during the recent Writers and Actors strike. In anticipation of industry union strikes moving toward final agreements, the State is preparing for the return of large-scale productions statewide.

New York State Departments, Agencies and Authorities are reminded to remain film friendly to attract and retain productions, while extending cooperation to productions and MPTV regarding requests for the use of State property and/or services under their jurisdiction. To that end, NYS entities shall review by December 11 their processes for marketing and making state property and/or services available to productions, and identify concrete ways they may support business attraction, including but not limited to:

- Expediting permits and decreasing turn-around time to no more than 10 business days;
- Keeping fees and direct personnel costs transparent and not exceeding the costs to the state;
- Maintaining an industry point of contact(s) within the agency (or in each region) to handle production requests, and;
- Ensuring your agency maintains one person or team to act as liaison to MPTV, who has the authority to expedite permits, clearances and the provision of services.

Such property and/or services should be made available to the maximum extent practicable to production companies. Unresolved problems should be brought to MPTV and my office's attention.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Kathryn Garcia
Director of State Operations